

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A Component Customization and Personalization System (CCPS) comprising:

a central site comprising an interface to a communications network, said central site further comprising a set of predetermined images and a graphics server providing graphics tools for enabling a modification of said predetermined images, and for further enabling the creation of new images;

a user station coupled to said central site through said communications network, said user station comprising:

(a) a user interface for enabling a user to access said graphics server for defining a desired image to be placed on a consumer product; and

(b) a manufacturing subsystem for receiving data descriptive of said desired image, and for manufacturing, at said user station, at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product to have said desired image placed on it as a decorative element.

2.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said central site further comprises an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user in order to make an accounting for the manufactured at least one three-dimensional component.

3.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said central site further comprises means for enabling the user to include the desired image into said set of predetermined images.

4.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics server for the purpose of selecting one of said predetermined images as a desired image.

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5.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics server for the purpose of creating said desired image by modifying at least one of said predetermined images.

6. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics server for the purpose of creating said desired image by inputting a new image.

7.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 6, wherein the user inputs a new image by digitally scanning an artwork or a photograph.

8.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 6, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a digital camera.

9.(Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 6, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a memory card.

10.(Original) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein said at least one user station comprises a point-of-sale (POS) terminal.

11. (Previously Presented) A Component Customization and Personalization System (CCPS) comprising:

a central site comprising an interface to a communications network, said central site further comprising a set of predetermined designs and images and an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user; and

a user station coupled to said central site through said communications network, said user station comprising:

(a) a user interface for enabling a user to access a graphics program for defining a desired image to be placed on a consumer product, the graphics program implementing graphics tools for enabling a modification of said predetermined images, and for further enabling the creation of new images; and

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(b) a manufacturing subsystem for receiving data descriptive of said desired image, and for manufacturing, at said user station, at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product to have said desired image placed on it as a decorative element.

12.(Original) The CCPS of claim 11, wherein said electronic commerce engine accepts a payment from the user in a form selected from the group consisting of a credit card, a debit card, a gift card, and a redemption of loyalty points.

13. (Previously Presented) A Component Customization and Personalization System (CCPS), comprising:

a central site comprising an interface to the Internet, said central site further comprising a set of predetermined images and an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user;

a user station coupled to said central site through the Internet, said user station comprising:

(a) a user interface for enabling a user to access a graphics program for defining a desired image to decorate at least one component of a mobile station, the graphics program implementing graphics tools for enabling a modification of said predetermined images, and for further enabling the creation of new images; and

(b) a manufacturing subsystem for receiving data descriptive of said desired image, and for manufacturing, at said user station, at least one three-dimensional component of said mobile station to have said desired image placed on it as a decorative element.

14. (Previously Presented)) A Component Customization and Personalization System (CCPS) user station comprising:

a user interface for enabling a user to access a graphics subsystem for defining a desired image to be placed on a consumer product; and

a manufacturing subsystem for receiving data descriptive of said desired image, and for manufacturing, at said user station, at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product to have said desired image as a decorative element.

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15.(Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 14, further comprising an interface for accessing an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user in order to make an accounting for the manufactured at least one three-dimensional component.

16. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 14, wherein said graphics subsystem comprises a set of predetermined images, and a graphics tool for enabling a modification of said predetermined images and for further enabling the creation of new images.

17. (Previously Presented)The CCPS user station of claim 16, wherein said graphics subsystem enables the user to include the desired image into said set of predetermined images.

18. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 16, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics subsystem for the purpose of selecting one of said predetermined images as a desired image.

19. (Previously Presented)The CCPS user station of claim 16, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics subsystem for the purpose of creating said desired image by modifying at least one of said predetermined images.

20. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 16, wherein said user interface enables the user to access said graphics subsystem for the purpose of creating said desired image by inputting a new image.

21. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 20, wherein the user inputs a new image by digitally scanning an artwork or a photograph.

22. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 20, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a digital camera.

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23. (Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 20, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a memory card.

24.(Original) The CCPS user station of claim 14, further comprising a point-of-sale (POS) terminal.

25.(Original) The CCPS user station of claim 14, wherein said consumer product is a mobile station.

26.(Previously Presented) The CCPS user station of claim 25, wherein said at least one three-dimensional component is a cover component of said mobile station.

27.(Original) The CCPS user station of claim 25, wherein said user interface further enables a user to at least one of select, modify or create an audible signal for use with said mobile station.

28.(Original) The CCPS user station of claim 25, wherein said user interface further enables a user to at least one of select, modify or create a graphical image for use with said mobile station.

29. (Previously Presented) A method for providing a component customization and personalization function, comprising:

providing a central site comprising an interface to a communications network, a set of predetermined images, and a graphics server providing graphics tools for enabling a modification of the predetermined images, and for further enabling a creation of new images;

coupling a plurality of user stations to the central site through the communications network, each of the user stations comprising (a) a user interface for enabling a user to access the graphics server to perform a step of defining a desired image to be placed on a consumer product, and (b) a manufacturing subsystem;

receiving, at said manufacturing subsystem, data descriptive of the desired image; and

manufacturing at said manufacturing subsystem at least one three-dimensional component of the consumer product to have the desired image placed on it as a decorative element.

30.(Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the central site further comprises an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user in order to make an accounting for the manufactured at least one three-dimensional component.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising enabling the user to include the desired image into the set of predetermined designs and images.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein defining a desired image comprises selecting one of the predetermined images as the desired image.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein defining a desired image comprises modifying at least one of the predetermined images.

34. (Previously Presented)) The method of claim 29, wherein defining a desired image comprises inputting a new image.

35. (Previously Presented)) The method of claim 34, wherein the user inputs a new image by digitally scanning an artwork or a photograph.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a digital camera.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a memory card.

38.(Original) The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of the user stations is comprised of a point-of-sale (POS) terminal.

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39. (Previously Presented) A method for providing a component customization and personalization function, comprising the steps of:

providing a user station comprising (a) a user interface, and (b) a manufacturing subsystem;
enabling a user, via said user interface, to access a graphics subsystem to define a desired image to be placed on a consumer product;
receiving, at said manufacturing subsystem, data descriptive of the desired image; and
manufacturing, by said manufacturing subsystem at said user station, at least one three-dimensional component of the consumer product to have the desired image placed on it as a decorative element.

40.(Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising a step of accessing an electronic commerce engine for conducting a financial transaction with the user in order to make an accounting for the manufactured at least one three-dimensional component.

41.(Cancelled).

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising enabling the user to include the desired image into a set of predetermined images.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein enabling the user to access the graphics subsystem comprises enabling the user to select one of a set of predetermined images as the desired image.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein enabling the user to access the graphics subsystem comprises enabling the user to modify at least one of a set of predetermined images.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein enabling the user to access the graphics subsystem comprises enabling the user to input a new image.

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46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the user inputs a new image by digitally scanning an artwork or a photograph.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a digital camera.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the user inputs the new image by outputting digital data from a memory card.

49.(Original) The method of claim 39, wherein said user stations is comprised of a point-of-sale (POS) terminal.

50. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1 wherein the at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product comprises a cover component of a mobile station.

51.(Previously Presented). The CCPS of claim 11 wherein the at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product comprises a cover component of a mobile station.

52.(Previously Presented). The CCPS of claim 13 wherein the at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product comprises a cover component of a mobile station.

53.(Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein said at least one three-dimensional component of the consumer product comprises a cover component of a mobile station.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 wherein said at least one three-dimensional component of the consumer product comprises a cover component of a mobile station.

55. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1 wherein, in response to the user defining as the desired image one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, at least one of the user station and the central site checking said desired image for content owned by another.

56. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 55, wherein checking said desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

57. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 11 wherein, in response to the user defining as the desired image one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, at least one of the user station and the central site checking said desired image for content owned by another.

58. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 57, wherein checking said desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

59. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 13 wherein, in response to the user defining as the desired image one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, at least one of the user station and the central site checking said desired image for content owned by another.

60. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 59, wherein checking said desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

61. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 16, wherein, in response to the user defining as the desired image one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, at least one of the user station and the central site checking said desired image for content owned by another.

62. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 61, wherein checking said desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

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63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising, for the case where the desired image is one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, checking the desired image for content owned by another.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63, wherein checking the desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 further comprising, for the case where the desired image is one of a modification of a predetermined image and a new image, checking the desired image for content owned by another.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein checking the desired image for content owned by another comprises providing a statement for user certification at the user interface.

67. (Previously Presented) The CCPS of claim 1, wherein the manufacturing subsystem is further for manufacturing, at said user station, the at least one three-dimensional component of said consumer product to have a user-specified functional element.

68. (Currently Amended) The CCPS of claim ~~68-67~~, wherein the user-specified functional element is embedded within the image in the completed three-dimensional component.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein manufacturing at said manufacturing subsystem at least one three-dimensional component of the consumer product to have the desired image placed on it as a decorative element further comprises manufacturing at said manufacturing subsystem the three dimensional component to further have a user-specified functional element.

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70 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 69 wherein the user-specified functional element is embedded within the image in the completed three-dimensional component.